

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08741 181046 Z

45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 DPW-01 AID-20 EUR-25 NIC-01 RSR-01

ACDA-19 /094 W

----- 099119

R 180833 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1813

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8741

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SITREP, MAY 17, 1973

FOL SENT ACTION SAIGON MAY 17 AND RPTD FOR YOUR INFO QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0520

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SIT REP, MAY 17

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. SECURITY SITUATION: MOST OF REGION CELEBRATED SERENE EVE OF BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY, BUT ARVN FORCES IN PHU MY DISTRICT, BINH DINH TOOK HALLOWED OCCASION TO DISPATCH 82 VC. FIRST OF THREE MAY 16 ACTIONS IN THAT DISTRICT RESULTED IN MOST LOSSES INCURRED IN SINGLE BATTLE IN MR II SINCE CEASE- FIRE. COMPANY OF 40 TH REGIMENT, 23 RD DIVISION WAS ON PATROL IN AN AREA 12 KMS NORTHWEST OF PHU MY DISTRICT TOWN AT 0430 H WHEN CONTACT WAS MADE WITH UNIDENTIFIED VC FORCE. IN COURSE OF ENSUING BATTLE, ARVN KILLED 53 ENEMY, CAPTURED AN 82 MM MORTAR, SIX B-40 ROCKETS, 3 B-41 ROCKETS, 50 CKC RIFLES, 40 AK RIFLES AND DESTROYED A VC BATTALION TRAINING CENTER AND A 105 MM ARTILLERY POSITION. WOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION WAS REGIONAL TACTICAL OPERATIONS CENTER ( TOC) AT NHA TRANG WHICH ALSO REPORTS THAT NO RVNAF AIR ARTILLERY SUPPORT WAS EMPLOYED DURING FIGHTING. ONLY ARVN LOSSES REPORTED WERE TWO WIA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08741 181046 Z

2. OTHER TWO FIRE FIGHTS IN PHU MY OCCURRED LATER IN DAY WITHIN SIX KMS RADIUS OF SITE OF INITIAL BATTLE AND ALSO INVOLVED COMPANIES OF 40 TH REGIMENT. THESE CONTACTS ALSO REPORTEDLY RESULTED IN CASUALTY COUNTS HEAVILY FAVORING ARVN ( VC: 29 KIA; ARVN: 1 KIA, 1 WIA). IT APPEARS, THOUGH WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION FROM GVN SOURCES AT REGION HQS, THAT THE 40 TH REGIMENT HAS LAUNCHED A " PRE- EMPTIVE OPERATION" ( THE CURRENT ARVN EUPHEMISM FOR OFFENSIVE) IN NORTHERN PHU MY. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SHOULD BE OBTAINABLE FROM US SOURCES IN BINH DINH AND WHEN RANKING HOLIDAY CELEBRANTS OF NHA TRANG TOC RETURN TO DUTY MAY 18.

3. EIGHT MORE INCIDENTS, EXCLUDING ABOVE MENTIONED THREE, OCCURRED THROUGHOUT REGION ON MAY 16; THESE INCLUDED FOUR VC MININGS, THREE HARASSMENTS BY FIRE, AND ONE FIRE FIGHT BETWEEN RVNAF UNIT ON PATROL AND VC. THREE OF THESE OCCURRED IN NORTHERN BINH DINH, TWO IN PHU YEN , AND ONE EACH IN BINH THUAN, LAM DONG, AND KONTUM. CASUALTIES: VC: NONE; RVNAF: THREE KIA, FIVE WIA.

4. FOR SIXTH TIME SINCE MARCH 20, VC MINED RAILROAD IN PHU YEN, THIS TIME ON STRETCH 12 KMS SOUTH OF TUY AN DISTRICT TOWN. PRESSURE- DETONATED MINE EXPLODED DESTROYING TWO FLAT CARS BEING PUSHED IN FRONT OF REPAIR TRAIN LOCOMOTIVE. LOCOMOTIVE NOT DAMAGED.

5. ICCS: LAM DONG POLOFF WHILE IN QUANG DUC ON MAY 15 MET A DELEGATION FROM DALAT ICCS SUB- REGIONAL TEAM ( REGION IV) WHICH WAS INVESTIGATING MAY 7 INCIDENTS ( NHA TRANG 477 PARA 3). CANDEL TOLD POLOFF THIS WAS FIRST INVESTIGATION BY ICCS DALAT IN WHICH ALL CHIP' S PARTICIPATED. HE WAS NOT HOPEFUL THAT INVESTIGATION WOULD " PROVE ANYTHING" EXCEPT THAT " SOME- THING DID TAKE PLACE." WEEK' S DELAY IN INVESTIGATION CAUSED BY ARRANGING TRANSPORTATION. DALAT TEAM BROUGHT ALONG ITS OWN JEEP IN CARIBOU, WHICH POLOFF BELIEVES WAS COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY.

6. QUANG DUC PROVINCE CHIEF PRESENTED POLDEL COLONEL WITH STUFFED ALLIGATOR MOUNTED ON BOARD AND INVITED ALL TO RETURN SOON FOR HUNTING TRIP. NO REPORORON POLE' S REACTION TO GIFT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 08741 181046 Z

7. ICCS REGION III AT PLEIKU, WITH THE APPROACH OF THE RAINY SEASON, IS SEARCHING FOR ALTERNATE HELICOPTER LANDING SITE TO BEN HET ITSELF IN BEN HET AREA. PRG HAS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO DAK TO AS SUCH A SITE BUT WANTS GVN ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL NOT RPT NOT ATTACK DAK TO- BEN HET ROAD. ICCS IS

APPROACHING GVN TPJMC AT PLEIKU FOR SUCH GUARANTEES.

8. ICCS PLEIKU HAS CONTINUED TO FLY LIAISON AND SUPPLY MISSIONS TO DUC CO IN AN EFFORT, IN COOPERATION WITH PRG, TO IMPROVE FACILITIES AT THAT SITE SO THAT POINT OF ENTRY TEAM CAN REDEPLOY. ON MAY 11 PA& E ACCOMPANIED BY ICCS FLEW TO DUC CO AND INSTALLED NEW WATER TANK, PUMP AND PIPING. ICCS WAS ALSO TO VISIT ON MAY 15 AND AGAIN ON MAY 21 OR 25.

9. BUDDHA' S BIRTHDAY: BUDDHA' S BIRTHDAY IS BEING CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT THE REGION, BUT NOWHERE MORE FESTIVELY THAN AT PHAN THIET WHERE, OUR POLOFF REPORTS, THERE WAS A FLOAT AND TORCH LIGHT PARADE ON EV  
E E E E E E E

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON08741  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730549/aaaajmua.tel  
**Line Count:** 127  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 17 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <09-Oct-2001 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980224  
**Subject:** MR 2 DAILY SITREP, MAY 17, 1973  
**TAGS:** PINS, MILI, PINT  
**To:** EA  
JEC PARIS  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005